

Environmental Protection Agency

- On June 25, 1990, EPA issued a draft Risk Assessment classifying environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as a known human carcinogen. The draft report also concluded that ETS is statistically associated with respiratory infections in children.
- On June 25, 1990, EPA also issued a draft Workplace Policy Guide recommending that employers either require separately ventilated smoking and non-smoking areas or ban smoking.
- On December 7-8, 1990, EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) reviewed the draft risk assessment and policy guide and recommended substantial changes in the documents. The SAB tentatively endorsed the risk assessment's conclusion that ETS is a known human carcinogen.
- Before the draft risk assessment or the draft policy guide become final EPA documents they must be revised and submitted to the Administrator of EPA for his formal approval.
- EPA is currently revising the documents for submission to the Administrator. We do not expect the final documents to be released until late fall of 1991.
- We have expressed our disagreement with the conclusions of the draft documents and have asked several scientists to submit scientific papers to EPA for review.
- We have also asked that EPA delay final release of the documents until after they have been reviewed by a panel of independent scientists.
- It is important to note that EPA does not have authority to regulate ETS or smoking. Classification of ETS as a human carcinogen will, however, have negative political and media implications.

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